Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic background helped found the nation in countless unrecorded ways as servants, nurses, nuns, homemakers, industrial workers, teachers, reformers, soldiers and pioneers; and,

WHEREAS, American women have played, and continue to play, a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of our state's life by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working in and outside of the home; and,

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout our history by providing the majority of the nation's volunteer labor force and have been particularly important in establishing early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions in the country; and,

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement, not only to secure their own right of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor union movement, and the modern civil rights movement; and,

WHEREAS, During our state's Centennial celebration, I urge South Dakotans to recognize the role such women as Laura Ingalls Wilder, Rose Otto Sayer, Annie D. Tallent, Matilda Joslyn Gage, Gertrude Simmons Bonnin (Zitkala-Sa) and Dr. Frances Oldham Kelsey played in the state's history; and,

WHEREAS, Despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued in the body of American history:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 1989, as

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

in South Dakota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of February, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Nine

GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE